



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Weers et al.

Appl. No.

09/851,226

Filed

May 8, 2001

For

PHOSPHOLIPID-BASED POWDERS

FOR DRUG DELIVERY

Examiner

Wells, L.

Group Art Unit 1617

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

11/25/2002

(Date)

Karen Molr

RECEIV

DEC 0 5 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 24, 2002, please consider the following amendments and remarks with respect to the above-captioned application. A petition for a two month extension of time and fee are enclosed herewith. All pending claims have been reproduced for Examiner's ease of reference.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 6, 7, and 33-42 and add claims 53-71.

July ?

02-FC:1806

1. (Amended) A particulate composition for delivery to the pulmonary system comprising: particles comprising a caturated phospholipid and a polyvalent cation in an amount effective to increase the gel-to-liquid-crystal transition temperature of the particle compared to particles without the polyvalent cation, wherein the particulate composition is storage stable.

/04/2002 CCEDREGI 00000053-500348 -09851226

12/04/2002 GGEBREGI 00000053 500348 0985

09851226

03 FC:1202

108.00 CH

01/15/2003 TSUGGS 00000002 500348

09851226

180:00-EH